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NEW TONKIN DOUBT

*Ex-Spy Faces
Fulbright Call*

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WASHINGTON — The Senate Foreign Relations Committee,

in a new challenge to the administration, may soon cross-examine the nation's chief electronic spy at the time of the Gulf of Tonkin incident.

It was learned that Sen. J. William Fulbright, D-Ark., committee chairman, is considering taking testimony from Eugene G. Fubini, who was responsible for the electronic intelligence operations of the National Security Agency (NSA) from 1963 to 1965.

Fulbright apparently believes the testimony will challenge

the principal basis of the administration's case.

Defense Secretary Robert S. McNamara told the committee last week that the administration had "incontrovertible evidence . . . intelligence reports of a highly classified and unimpeachable nature" that the North Vietnamese attacked U.S. destroyers in the Gulf of Tonkin Aug. 4, 1964.

The reports were considered so sensitive that President Johnson is understood to have given McNamara written instructions not to reveal them to the committee staff investigating the incident.

However, the censored transcript of McNamara's testimony made it clear that the reports were based on intercepted messages between North Vietnamese military units.

NETWORK MAINTAINED

The National Security Agency, which is under the jurisdiction of the Defense Department, maintains a worldwide network to gather such messages electronically.

Fubini, now a vice president of International Business Machines, supervised NSA for McNamara while serving as deputy director of defense research and engineering. He was supposed to have full access to all NSA's intelligence.

Fulbright and other committee members have challenged whether the Aug. 4 attack, the second of two incidents in the Gulf of Tonkin, actually took place or if it did whether it was unprovoked and sufficient ground for retaliatory air strikes.

BOMBINGS FOLLOWED

The President started the bombing of North Vietnam Aug. 5 and cited the Aug. 4 incident in securing congressional approval of the Gulf of Tonkin resolution, which gave him a free hand to escalate the war.

Fulbright has called for a complete review of the Vietnam situation, contending Congress was misled by administration testimony at the time of the incident.

The senator reportedly intends to see whether the administration sends more U. S. troops to Vietnam and otherwise intensifies the war before deciding whether to continue the Tonkin investigation.